

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, and 9-10 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A simulator comprising:

a parameter gathering unit that gathers parameters from a plurality of portions in a network;

a future prediction unit that according to the parameters gathered by said parameter gathering unit predicts a future state in said network over a prescribed length of time;

a model creation unit that creates a model corresponding to said network;

a parameter application unit that applies the parameters gathered by said parameter gathering unit to the model created by said model creation unit; and

a simulation unit that executes a simulation according to the model created by said model creation unit,

wherein the parameters include at least one of a topology parameter, which represents a topology of said network, a service rate parameter, which represents a processing speed of said network, a qualitative arrival rate parameter, which qualitatively represents how crowded said network is, and a quantitative arrival rate parameter, which quantitatively represents how crowded said network is.

2. (Original) The simulator according to claim 1 further comprising a display unit that displays the result of prediction by said future prediction unit and the result of simulation by said simulation unit.

3. (Original) The simulator according to claim 1,
wherein said parameter gathering unit gathers the parameters corresponding to a plurality of segment pairs in said network; and
wherein said future prediction unit predicts the future state over a prescribed length of time in corresponding relationship to a plurality of the segment pairs.

4. (Currently Amended) The simulator according to claim 3,
wherein said display unit displays the result of prediction by said future prediction unit and the result of simulation by said simulation unit ~~in such a way so that these~~ both results correspond to each of the segment pairs.

5. (Original) The simulator according to claim 2;
wherein said display unit displays whether the result of simulation by said simulation unit satisfies the performance standard of said network that has been set by a user beforehand.

6. (Currently Amended) A simulation method comprising the steps of:

gathering parameters from a plurality of portions in a network;

predicting a future state in said network over a prescribed length of time based on gathered parameters;

creating a model corresponding to said network;

applying the gathered parameters to the created model; and

executing simulation based on the created model,

wherein the parameters include at least one of a topology parameter, which represents a topology of said network, a service rate parameter, which represents a processing speed of said network, a qualitative arrival rate parameter, which qualitatively represents how crowded said network is, and a quantitative arrival rate parameter, which quantitatively represents how crowded said network is.

7. (Original) The simulation method according to claim 6, further comprising a step of displaying the result of prediction and the result of simulation.

8. (Original) The simulation method according to claim 6, wherein parameters are gathered corresponding to a plurality of segment pairs in said network; and

the future state is predicted over a prescribed length of time in corresponding relationship to a plurality of the segment pairs.

9. (Currently Amended) The simulation method according to claim 7, wherein the result of prediction and the result of simulation are displayed in ~~such a way~~so that these both results correspond to each of the segment pairs.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for storing instructions, which when executed on a computer, causes the computer to perform the steps of:

gathering parameters from a plurality of portions in a network;

predicting a future state in said network over a prescribed length of time based on the gathered parameters;

creating a model corresponding to said network;

applying the gathered parameters to the created model; and

executing simulation based on the created model,

wherein the parameters include at least one of a topology parameter, which represents a topology of said network, a service rate parameter, which represents a processing speed of said network, a qualitative arrival rate parameter, which qualitatively represents how

crowded said network is, and a quantitative arrival rate parameter, which quantitatively represents how crowded said network is.